

SERVICE SCENE

Mehtas Entertain Indian Air Chief

By RUTH DEAN

Although the reception given by Indian Ambassador and Mrs. Mehta for India's young Air Chief of Staff and Mrs. Shrimali Mukerjee last night was a diplomatic affair, politics was very much on the minds of some of the guests, especially the distaff ones.

Mrs. Wilber Brucker, whose Army Secretary husband was detained at his Pentagon office preparing campaign speeches he will make later this month, said she will do a little campaigning of her own today.

Bright and early this morning, Mrs. Brucker was to leave with other members of the "kitchen kabinet" (wives of President Eisenhower's cabinet officers) by bus for Wilmington, Del. The trip is being sponsored by the National Federation of Republican Women. Each of the women will give the record of what her husband has done during the last three years of the Eisenhower administration. (Story on "Kitchen Kabinet," wives' trip on Page B-3.)

Also revealing plans for attending a Republican women's luncheon in Philadelphia later this month was Mrs. Charles E. Wilson, wife of the Secretary of Defense. Mrs. Wilson, who was accompanied to the party by Mrs. Arthur W. Radford, reported Secretary Wilson, now recuperating at home from an operation, is "doing very nicely." He plans to leave October 18 to spend some time at their Southern plantation, she said, and she will join him on the 23rd after attending the luncheon in Philadelphia on the 22nd.

The party, given at the Indian Embassy, was a gay and colorful one. Sari-clad wives of Embassy officials and the two vivacious daughters of Ambassador and Mrs. Mehta circulated among the guests with trays of tempting, hot hors d'oeuvres. Favorites were the spinach and potato peccores and the meat kabobs.

The guests of honor were the hit of the party, as much for their youth and attractiveness as their charm. Air Marshal Mukerjee has just completed an inspection of United States Air Force bases. He will remain here until Friday when he and Mrs. Mukerjee leave for New York and then on to Europe.

Air Force Secretary and Mrs. Donald Quarles were among those chatting with the Mukerjees. Mrs. Quarles told the dashing Indian air chief she found it hard to believe he had put in 27 years' service, but with a twinkle in his eye he explained he started when he was 18. The Mukerjees have a 14-year-old son.

Among early arrivals at the 6-to-8 o'clock party were the Special Assistant to the President and Mrs. Harold E. Stassen, Undersecretary of the Air Force and Mrs. James H. Douglas, the commanding general of Bolling Air Force Base and Mrs. Reuben C. Hood, Mme. Gunewardene, wife of the Ceylon Ambassa-

dor, and Mme. Notowidigdo, wife of the Indonesian Ambassador who was in New York on a speaking engagement.

Dropping by a little later were the deputy director of CIA and Mrs. Charles P. Cabell, the head of the United States delegation to NATO and Mrs. Leon W. Johnson, Chief of Protocol and Mrs. John F. Simmons, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Clarence S. Irvine, whose begonia-trimmed black velvet picture hat was the most admired chapeau of the evening, and Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Elmer J. Rogers.